



GOVERNOR GRETCHEN WHITMER

INVESTING IN THE BAY REGION

The Whitmer-Gilchrist administration has invested in every region of Michigan to deliver on the kitchen-table issues that matter most to families, communities, and small businesses.

Growing the Bay Region's economy

- Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) investments:
 - Over \$18.5 million invested to support over 30 Business Development projects projected to create nearly 450 jobs and leverage over \$1 billion in private investment.
 - \$31 million to support over 20 Community Development projects, leveraging nearly \$30 million in private investment and reactivating nearly 1 million square feet of public space.
- Delivered \$18 million to support over 2,000 businesses and retain more than 16,000 jobs through COVID, with 64% of relief going to geographically disadvantaged areas.

Empowering workers in the Bay Region

- 6,128 Michigan Reconnect applicants in the Bay Region are on tuition-free paths to higher education or skills training.
- 6,421 Futures for Frontliners in the Bay Region who served on the frontlines of the pandemic have been accepted to get on tuition-free paths to receiving a diploma or attending community college.
- Created 1,497 knew registered apprenticeships with a focus on supporting opportunities for underrepresented populations: veterans, women, people of color, those with disabilities, and young Michiganders.
- COVID relief:
 - Saved 2,678 jobs with Workshare program which allowed employees to collect unemployment benefit while working part-time.
 - Set up eight virtual job fairs connecting 248 employers to over 520 job-seekers.

Fixing roads, bridges, pipes, and parks in the Bay Region

- Fixed 1,211 lane miles of road and 125 bridges, supporting 4,110 jobs.
- Invested \$9.2 million to upgrade or repair state and local parks.
- Invested nearly \$25 million into water infrastructure in the Bay Region to upgrade sewer systems, replaced lead pipes, and protected safe drinking water for families.

Investing in students and schools in the Bay Region

- Increased per-pupil funding by 16%, or \$1,279, for every student in the Bay Region since taking office.
- Expanded access to free preschool through the Great Start Readiness Program to 3,691 kids in the Bay Region.
- Raised childcare funding per kid in the Bay Region by 166%.

Building housing and keeping families in their homes in the Bay Region

- Constructed 427 affordable, attainable housing units.
- Helped 986 families with mortgages and down payments.
- Kept 8,729 families in their homes with rental assistance.
- Delivered emergency rental assistance to 7,618 families.

Proposals to cut taxes for seniors and working families in the Bay Region

- Governor Whitmer's proposal to roll back the retirement tax would save 34,300 families in the Bay Region an average of \$1,000 a year, putting \$34.3 million back in people's pockets and the local economy.
- Governor Whitmer's proposal to triple Michigan's Earned Income Tax Credit would deliver an average combined tax refund of \$3,000 to 46,000 working families in the Bay Region, putting \$138 million in people's pockets and the local economy.

UPDATED: September 6, 2022